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16 March 2015

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Welcome to our new Permanent Members of staff.

Danyelle Benton (English)

Kate Thomas (PDHPE)

Joel Anderson (PDHPE)

We also have a number of new and continuing Temporary Staff in the school for the year. Welcome to Ben Glachin, Dane Fearnley, Daniel Jonovski, Holly Buchanan, Jason Riley, Kate Writer, Kieren Dibben and Megan Hawkins some of whom are relatively new to our school and are in on Temporary Blocks for the year.

### Late to School / Class

Gorokan High School starts at 8.15am. Students are expected to be in roll call at this time. Students arriving after this time require a note from home indicating the reason for their partial absence. If students do not have a note they are required to complete a consequence for the lateness.

Similarly if students are late to class they will be required to complete a consequence. Unfortunately many students are taking too long to move between classes or from the playground to class after breaks. Recess and lunch time are designated times for use of the toilets.

### Uniform

Students are required to wear full school uniform at all times. This is a requirement for the safety of our students so they are easily identifiable on our school grounds and in our community. Please ensure if your child is unable to wear uniform for any reason that they have a note explaining why.

With the cold weather approaching it is important to get your school jumpers now.

### Cyber Safety / Awareness

Please ensure your children are safe on line by using the appropriate filters and supervision on your home internet. It is all too easy for our kids to unwittingly get caught up giving out personal information over the internet. Simple things like 'tagging' and 'checking in' via facebook can give undesirables their current location potentially putting them at risk of harm.

### Car park Safety

Parents and carers are asked not to use the car park as a drop off or pick up area for students. Please use the designated pick up and drop off areas provided. There is a

pedestrian crossing for students to use which is a safe place for everyone to cross the road.

### Congratulations

To our students who have represented the school so well in Sport over the first few weeks of school. We have had the Zone Swimming Carnival, Open Boys and Girls Touch, Lawn Bowls, Boys and Girls Soccer and Baseball Teams all out competing against other schools. Thank you to the staff who take out the teams, and to the staff who cover their classes on top of their normal classes back at school.

### Good Luck

To year 12 who are completing their half yearly exams over the next couple of weeks, and to year 11 who are completing their exams early next term.

### Thank you,

To Whom It May Concern: parents and caregivers who have paid their subject contribution fees.

All staff for their hard work during First Term.

**Sam Ricketts**  
**PRINCIPAL**

## SUPPORT UNIT:

The Support Unit have been working extremely hard this Term, with staff and parents involved in Individual Education Plan Meetings and implementing support programs across the school. These programs are all aimed at enhancing our student's development and engagement with the community. I am particularly impressed with the commitment and ongoing support from our parents and staff in working together to achieve student individual goals.

I am also pleased to announce a selection of students from our MC and IM Classes will be participating in the Stewart House Special Education Week, during the last week of this Term. Stewart House is a Not for Profit Camp on the Sydney North Shore. Stewart House offers week long activities for students including visits to the city and Taronga Zoo. Fortunately, 10 students have been selected and will participate in this camp. Special thanks to Mrs Smith, who is giving up her week to spend time with the students.

The Support Unit has also been involved in the School Swimming and Athletics Carnivals with it pleasing to see so many students participating in these school activities. The BD Class have also been involved in a number of school excursions, including Maitland Gaol and to Kariong to complement units currently being studied in class.

## GATS UNIT:

Term 1 is coming to an end soon and the GATS unit was very busy.

Our first activity was the **Year 7 Parent Workshop**. The workshop's aim is to give insights to parents about how to work closer and to understand the mind of their gifted children. Many parents were happy to see that they are not alone and that their teenagers have similar behaviour and emotional issues to others. It was a very successful interaction with the new parents coming to Gorokan High.

The gold gem for this term will be the **Stage 3 Academic Olympics**. In this event, Teams from Gorokan, Toukley, Wyong Public (OC) and Kanwal Public Schools will compete in Mathematics, English, Creativity, Science and Engineering Challenge and HSIE. Those activities are focused in building team work and increase problem solving skills.

A group from Year 7P Class was selected and they will help during the day with all the activities.

We are looking forward for a great day!

The **English, Math, Science and Writing ICAS Competition** will happen next Term. Notes have been distributed to students in A-stream and Senior Classes by your Science Teachers. If you did not have a note and you want to participate, please collect the note from the Science Staffroom. Here are the dates and costs for those competitions:

Subject	Dates	Costs
Science	3 June 2015	\$ 8.00
Writing	15 June 2015	\$18.00
English	28 July 2015	\$8.00
Mathematics	11 August 2015	\$8.00

Year 7C and P and Year 8C and 8P were invoiced for the English, Math and Science Competitions only. Payments due 1st May 2015. You can pay online following the details in the notes given to the students.

Practice for the above tests can be done here:  
<https://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/preparation>

If you have any questions about the Selective Class, please contact me [silvia.rudmann@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:silvia.rudmann@det.nsw.edu.au)

Finally, we wish all our students a safe and well deserved holiday after a busy Term 1. Recover your energies to keep working to your best in Term 2.

## Careers News

### Motivational Speaker:

On Wednesday 18th February Year 10 and Year 11 students attended a Motivational Talk given at school, by Justin Herald who is a former student of Gorokan High.

Justin held the attention of students with entertaining tales that highlighted the importance of friends and allies, taking risks and believing in himself. He told the students about what

motivated him at age 25 to start his own business, some of the teething problems due to lack of business knowledge and how he moved forward in building his business. His story illustrated that success is measured in many different ways.

The quote that he left with the students is:

***Impossible is not a fact.... It's just an opinion!***

### Positions Vacant:

During the year I regularly receive lists of Positions Vacant on the Central Coast and from about July onwards the Apprenticeships for the following year are advertised.

I send all the job adverts to Year 10, 11 and 12 through their school email address, so it is important that the students check their emails at least weekly. I also put a copy of the adverts in the Careers Notice Board that is located on the outside wall of the Careers Room.

### Workplace Health and Safety White card Courses:

This course is compulsory for students who want to do Work Experience in any area of the Construction Industry. The Department of Education has instructed that we are not to accept any 'on-line-course' White Cards Depending on demand, I usually book the trainer to run a course each Term.

On Friday 27th February we ran the First White card Course for the year and I am pleased to say that it was fully supported by our Year 10 students. The next course will be run on Friday 5th of June and students can get a permission slip from the Careers Office and pay their \$80, which is the student discount price, at the office now.

### Senior students:

It is important the students start to do their Career Pathway investigation early so they can consider the variety of options that are now available to them.

Year 11 and 12 students can access the Careers Resource Centre during their Study periods, if it is a time when Ms Thompson is in the Office. The Centre is located between the Careers Room and the Careers Office.

- The students have the use of a computer with internet access so they can do career related research.
- I am available to assist them with research and also with writing job applications and resumes.

Parents are also welcome to make an appointment to access information about assisting their child with job applications, finding out about University Courses and how to apply, registering with group training companies and employment.

### Year 12 - Advanced Notice:

On the night of Wednesday 3 June, I will be holding a **U Need Information Session** for year 12 students who are eligible to get an ATAR and their parents to come to. As part of this session I invite former students to talk about their experiences of applying for and attending University. Further details will be issued closer to the date.

## Changes to the Process for Tax File Number Applications

These can no longer be processed through the school. Students must now pick up the application forms from the Post Office, complete them, make an appointment at the Post Office and take their original documents for proof of identity, to have them checked and verified.

By applying early for a Tax File Number they are prepared in advance for looking for casual employment, needing to register with Centrelink or enrol for University when the time comes.

## Certification of Photocopied Documents

I am a Justice of the Peace and as such I am:

- authorised to certify photocopies of documents as long as I sight the original and verify that it is an exact copy.
- able to witness signatures on official documents, such as Statutory Declarations. I must have known the person for 12 months or sight some Photo Identification which I must document on the form.

This services is offered free of charge by all Justices of the Peace.

**Susanne Thompson**  
**CAREERS ADVISOR**

## STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL:

### Youth of the Year is....

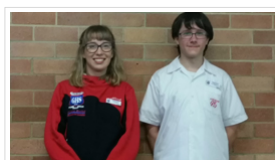
Gorokan High School was fortunate enough to have four students who applied for Youth of the Year, Courtney Short, Aaron Stevens-Graham, Karla Jacob and Kaitlyn Mclsaac. Courtney Short was successful in the Toukley Lioness Club Level. Aaron was being sponsored by Gwandalan Lionesses Karla was being sponsored by the Gorokan-Kanwal Lions and Kaitlyn was sponsored by the Gwandalan Lions and they were all represented in the Gwandalan Lions Club level. Gorokan High School had three students Aaron, Kaitlyn and Courtney were also successful in making the next round and represented during the Zone Level. Kaitlyn Mclsaac was again successful in making the regional level. Gorokan Kanwal Lions supported Kaitlyn at Toukley RSL in Zone 3 on 23rd of February and Regionals 1 on Tuesday 10th of March.

Thanks to Gorokan High School, Deputy Principal Marie Grant, Teachers Kylie Kasmar, Andrew Penfold and Lisa Young. And of course the parents, family and friends in supporting our students throughout this process.

### Participants: Youth of the Year 2015:



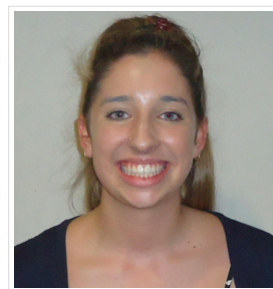
1st on left, Represented at Zone Level



Kaitlyn Mclsaac & Aaron Graham



Karla Jacob



Courtney Short

## Central Coast Student Voice Conference

On Monday the 9th of March, 2015 Gorokan High School hosted the first in school Central Coast Student Voice Conference run by students. Our Captains Jeremy Spalding and Ellie Brown, Vice Captains Dane Boyd and Emma Griffiths along with some of the Student Council junior students, Skye Short, Shannon Renwick and Jaeleigh Carnegie welcomed students from schools across the Central Coast into our school for the Annual Central Coast Student Voice Conference.

Shannon Renwick acknowledged country and Tyren Ah-See, William Chadler, Thomas Kelly and Josh Wardlaw performed a didge piece which was followed by a warm welcome to our visitors by our Principal Mr. Ricketts.

Our student Council Presidents Aaron and Karla ran the day smoothly along with the assistance of Vice Presidents Dale and Kaitlyn. Aaron and Karla were heavily involved in the organisation of the day which they spent a lot of their time making their ideas become a reality. Along with other students from across the central coast totalling 65 students, student council students Billie-Jo Cresswell, Emma Griffiths, Tomas Pike and Joshua Pearson represented our school with pride, these students were truly remarkable. Thankyou to all staff at Gorokan High School for their support and to the students who were involved in the organisation of the day.

## School Athletics Carnival

Student Council ran a Barbeque at the 2015 Athletics Carnival. We would like to thank the staff, students and parents for their support.

## Harmony Day

Harmony Day celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Harmony day will be held at Gorokan High School on Friday the 20th of March, 2015. There will be an extended lunch where students will be able to purchase a variety of foods which represent countries throughout the world. The Student Council students have selected a country they would like to represent through food. These countries are Australia, Canada, China, France and Italy. Everyone Belongs!

## Election Day BBQ Fundraiser

On the 28th of March at Gorokan High School the Student Council will be holding a Fundraiser BBQ. The food available will be Egg and Bacon Sandwiches, Sausage Sandwiches, Soft drinks and Bottle Water available for purchase as you walk in or



out from the school hall to vote. Please come and support our Student Council students in this event. BBQ will be open from 8am till 3pm so come and grab some breakfast or lunch while you vote and support your local school.

Thank you in advance for support of our students.

**Kylie Kasmar**  
**Teacher HSIE**

## **GOROKAN HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY:**

AT GHS we have a large collection of FICTION and NONFICTION for educational, informational and recreational use. The Library caters for all students with quiet reading areas as well as group work areas.

There are now 27 Desktop Computers available for research and/or homework.

### **LIBRARY OPENING HOURS**

We are open each day from 8am to 2.35pm but we are closed  
Recess - Friday week A.

### **LIBRARY STAFF**

Library staff is always able to help with locating resources, advice on the information process or reading recommendation's.

### **BORROWING**

JUNIORS may borrow 2 fiction and 2 non-fiction books  
SENIORS may borrow 6 fiction and 6 non-fiction books as well as textbooks

Most resources can be borrowed for 2 weeks and can be renewed if required

Senior textbooks must be borrowed through the library. All seniors need to pay a \$50 Textbook Fee that is **refundable** on return of all textbooks at the end of Year 12.

Books may be returned any time between 8am and 2.35pm.

If students have an overdue book or calculator they will not be able to borrow anything else.

Our library uses the OASIS Library System and students can search for resources using the school catalogue from any school computer or from home via student portal using the search tab using the [Visit your school library online](#) link.

### **PRINTING**

Printing is available in black and white 10c and colour 30c. Please see the staff at the Help Desk for assistance. Or you can email your work to Ms Powell ( [samantha.powell@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:samantha.powell@det.nsw.edu.au) ) and she will print it for you.

### **TIMETABLES**

Students can also have their timetable reprinted at recess or lunch for 50c or laminated for \$1.00.

### **SENIOR ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION**

Seniors need to submit Assessment Tasks at the library on the due date prior to 8.15am. Plastic sleeves and orange

submission forms are available under the stairs or you can print a submission form at home via the School Web Page.

### **BOOK CLUB**

Students can purchase books through Scholastic Book Club. The brochures are on display on the blue table in the foyer of the Library.

### **SUGGESTIONS**

Any fiction reading suggestions that you might like to see on our shelves at GHS

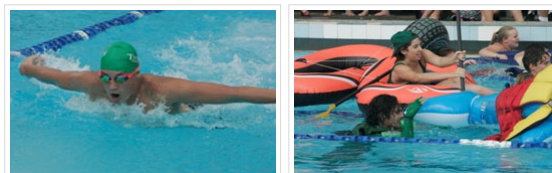
place your recommendation in the blue all notes box on the front counter.

## **SPORTS REPORT:**

### **SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

The Annual Gorokan High School Swimming Carnival was held earlier this Term, with over 400 students participating on the day. It provided a great opportunity for students to highlight their sporting talent, as well as their team spirit. From this event, 42 students were selected in the GHS Team for the Zone Swimming Carnival. We had great success, placing third overall with 10 students being selected in the Zone Swimming Team to compete at the Sydney North Carnival on the 17th of March.

***Congratulations to the following students; April Farrell, Jessica Allport, Georgia Paki, Maddison Bennett, Paige Stottelaar, Caleb Pora, Blake Taylor, Jack Lea, Greg Shevchenko and Micah Wall.***



*GHS Swimming Carnival 2015*

### **CHS KNOCKOUTS**

It has been a busy start to the year with over ten GHS Teams already competing in the 2015 CHS Knockout Competition.

Congratulations go to the Open Girls Basketball Team who defeated Kariong High School in their Round 1 Match. They will face Tuggerah Lakes Secondary College next round.

Congratulations also go to the Open Boys Soccer Team who defeated Wadalba High School in their Round 1 Match. They will face Narara Valley High School next round.

### **JAYME FRESSARD & RILEY MCKAY**

Congratulations to both Jayme Fressard and Riley McKay on their recent selections in the U18's NSW Rugby 7's Teams.

Jayme's side was undefeated at the National Titles, with Jayme scoring three tries in the final to assist her team to victory.

***A fantastic achievement by both girls!***



Jayme Fressard Riley McKay



Noah Munro

Ryan Slattery

The Sport Presentation Committee offer our sincere thanks to all sponsors for their support and hope the benefits flow on to you in your business through community patronage.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sydney North Swimming Championships – 17/03/15
- Rugby League 7's Gala Day – 25/03/15
- Combined High Schools (CHS) Swimming – 26/3/15 to 28/3/15

## PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW IN PE

Recently, a number of items have gone missing from the PE Change Rooms. Due to this, we would like to remind all students and parents of the procedures to follow in regards to valuables. Students are encouraged to place all valuable items (money, mobile phones, iPod's, etc.) into a class container, managed by their teacher, which gets securely stored in the PDHPE Staff Room. All valuables are handed in at the start of each lesson and returned at the end of the lesson. Change Rooms are locked during all lessons; however students are reminded that items brought to school are their own responsibility.

## SURFEST 2015:

Here are some photos from Surfest 2015. Ryan Slattery, Noah Munro, Cameron Hopkins and Nathan Gleeson participated in the Newcastle High School Teams Challenge. The boys surfed extremely well to win their way through the early rounds. They made it to the Final 16 Teams with tough competition from schools as far away as Vanuatu and many highly competitive Sydney schools.



Noah Munro & Cameron Hopkins

